



## **Safe Return Plan 2021-2022**

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The UpROAR Leadership Academy is committed to its mission to develop productive citizens and successful lifelong learners by providing diverse educational opportunities. The foundation of our mission rests upon the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and families. When developing the plan for a safe return to school, the UpROAR Leadership Academy consulted with parents, teachers, students, health officials, and community stakeholders to better understand their concerns and ensure we were taking necessary precautions. We have developed and will continue to refine our Safe Return Plan, making adjustments as needed. The plan will be reviewed monthly and revised as necessary. The Safe Return Plan is subject to change based on updates and recommendations from the North Carolina Department of Education (NCDPI) and North Carolina State Department of Health (NCDH) guidelines. **All students will return to UpROAR Leadership Academy on Monday, August 23rd.**

## SAFE RETURN GOALS

1. Follow the NCDPI and NCDH guidelines and keep our students and staff safe.
2. Assess academic gaps and provide accelerated catch-up growth opportunities.
3. Evaluate the social and emotional needs of our students and staff.
4. Develop and deliver a quality alternate learning program for our medically fragile students.
5. Keep schools open all year without having to endure school closure.

\*\*Any area not addressed in this action plan will continue under normal operating procedures as defined by UpROAR Leadership Academy School Board Policies and Student Handbooks.

\*\*All plans are subject to change based on regulations by the NC Department of Health and the Office of the Governor of North Carolina. Parents will be notified if changes are necessary.

# SAFE RETURN PLAN COMMITTEE

Genesia Newsome, Director

Stacy Blakney, Community Liaison

Shakina Oates, Curriculum Facilitator

Courtney Heikkila, Director of Curriculum

Namaine Coombs, Board Chair

Timothy Stroman, Vice Board Chair

Feedback was received via an online survey that was posted on the UpROAR Leadership Academy website. The survey will remain open, to receive continuous feedback from all stakeholders.

## ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

1. The UpROAR Leadership Academy will continue normal extracurricular activities beginning on June 1, 2021. Each program area will sustain a safe and healthy environment.
2. Extra-curricular activities such as athletics and fine arts will be available to students who choose to participate in the virtual learning platform.
3. The UpROAR Leadership Academy will follow Executive Orders issued by the State of North Carolina at all events.
4. Coaches/Sponsors will communicate with student-athletes via approved communication platforms (DeansList).
5. Extracurricular activities and sports are subject to the same mitigation protocols as our physical school buildings. Therefore, if a student cannot attend school in person because of family concerns for transmission or exposure of COVID-19, they cannot participate in these activities for the same reason.
6. Community transmission rates will be considered to determine which activities are appropriate.
7. Spectator, nonessential visitors, and nonessential activities may be limited or prohibited.
8. Masks are to be worn following the school guidelines and expectations.
9. Physical distancing will be encouraged during times players are not actively participating.

## ATTENDANCE

1. Attendance will be taken daily in accordance with the North Carolina Department of Education's attendance guidelines.
2. Alternate Online Learning students will be required to complete school work during normal school hours. If work is not completed during this time, students will be counted absent. Additional details regarding attendance for the Alternate Online Learning mode is available in the Alternate Online Learning Handbook.
3. School officials will work closely with truancy officers to monitor attendance.

## ASSESSMENTS

All students will be required to participate in all assessments on campus, including those participating in the Alternate Online Learning option.

## CHILD NUTRITION

The UpROAR Leadership Academy Child Nutrition Department will provide universally **free** breakfast and lunch meals to all students based on the waiver from the US Department of Agriculture. Meals will be served based on each school site's academic schedules.

The UpROAR Leadership Academy will adhere to NCDH and ServSafe considerations and requirements when establishing child nutrition protocols within each site. The district will promote behaviors that reduce the spread of infectious disease by educating staff in the following areas:

- Hand Hygiene
- Respiratory Etiquette
- Cloth Face Coverings (**Required**)
- Use of sanitizing supplies for cleaning

## COMMUNICATION

The UpROAR Leadership Academy provides communication to stakeholders through parent newsletters and DeansList - a program that allows for individual and group notifications.

Parents and Guardians should make sure their information is current and that the school is notified if there are any changes.

## FACULTY, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY

UpROAR Leadership Academy faculty, staff, and community provides feedback and participates in operational planning meetings to ensure operational continuity. The UpROAR Leadership Academy has operated through a Strategic Planning process for several years to set priorities, focus energy, strengthen operations, and sustain momentum as a school.

Through these avenues adjustments to academic programming, operations, support, communication, technology, health, and safety are made to benefit the UpROAR Leadership Academy.

## FLEXIBILITY

Administrators, school personnel, and health officials will continue to meet, plan, and discuss future changes to the current plan as conditions dictate. The plan will be reviewed monthly and revised as necessary.

## GRADING

1. Grades will continue to be entered into PowerSchool weekly.
2. Parents/Guardians will receive progress reports through PowerSchool. If the parent desires a printed copy, they must contact the school.
3. Dual Enrollment courses will follow and adhere to the grading breakdown of the institution and instructor.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. **Masks-** Students, faculty, and staff will be **required** to wear a mask on campus. The UpROAR Leadership Academy will follow Executive Orders issued by the State and Local governing agencies concerning masks. Students will be **required** to wear a mask while being transported. All outside visitors will be **required** to wear a mask upon entry into any facility in the UpROAR Leadership Academy.
2. **Sanitizing Protocols-** Daily cleaning and maintaining of facilities will continue in the UpROAR Leadership Academy. The school will be undertaking several projects to improve air quality including ventilation upgrades. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout campuses
3. **Screenings-** Health screenings and temperature screenings will be performed as needed.
4. **Social distancing-** When possible, students and staff will maintain the recommended distance.
5. **Visitors-** To protect the safety of our students and staff, ULA will still limit visitors to the schoolbuildings.
6. **Exposure/Infection-** Parent/guardian (or employee) must notify the principal (or supervisor) immediately upon receiving positive test results. ULA will continue to follow the isolation and quarantine protocols developed by NCDH and Mecklenburg County guidelines. Ongoing analysis of school health data to determine appropriate learning mode. Administration may transition school(s), class(es), or grade(s) between learning modes according to NCDPI guidelines.
7. **Additional Medical Personnel-** The UpROAR Leadership Academy will maintain additional medical staff to assist with the monitoring of student and staff health and wellness.

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The UpROAR Leadership Academy will follow the disciplinary guidelines as defined in the ULA Board Policy and outlined in the student handbooks. Disciplinary consequences that require in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, and alternative place may require students to participate in the educational process through the use of the Alternate Online Learning mode. The mode will ensure that students do not miss instructional time while handling their personal consequences for violations of the ULA Student Code of Conduct.

## TECHNOLOGY

1. The UpROAR Leadership Academy has utilized the CANVAS and Edmentum platform for an alternate learning environment during the 2020-2021 school year. ULA will continue using this platform for traditional classroom instruction and the Alternate Online Learning environment.
2. Both the parent/guardian and the student are responsible for properly using and caring for technology and equipment issued by UpROAR Leadership Academy. School issued technology and equipment are to be used following school board policies. If a student intentionally causes damage or loses either the device or any other issued equipment, the parent/guardian will be responsible for all fines. District-issued technology (equipment) must be returned to ULA immediately upon request.

<b>LOSS, DAMAGED, OR NEGLECTED</b>	<b>ESTIMATED REPAIR/REPLACEMENT</b>
Broken screen	\$50.00
Power cord/charging cord	\$30.00
Individual keyboard keys	\$15.00 each
Whole keyboard replacement/repair	\$100.00
Device case	\$30.00
Lost, stolen, replacement due to irreparable damage, or not returned	\$250.00



## TRANSPORTATION

1. Students who ride the bus will be encouraged to wear masks, but are not required.
2. Parents are encouraged to check their child's temperature and do health screening before leaving home for school.
3. Students will be given assigned seats. Family groups will be allowed to sit together.
4. Buses will be sanitized according to safety guidelines per NCHS.

## VIRTUAL LEARNING

Virtual Learning will be offered to medically fragile students with a medical certification, upon review by the COVID-19 review committee. In addition, students can be considered for the Virtual Learning option with a medical doctor's recommendation if there is an extreme medical condition in the student's documented residence and available vaccinations do not provide efficient support, upon review by the COVID-19 review committee. If qualified, Virtual Learning will be continuous for an entire semester. Forms for Virtual Learning for medically fragile students is due by August 2, 2021. **Virtual Learning begins Monday, August 23rd.**